REMARKS:

Claims 1, 3-12, 14-17, 19, 20, 24-26, 30-46 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claims 39-46 were allowed in the first action. The remaining claims in the case have been amended to include the linearization means feature which was indicated by the examiner as clearly distinguishing the claims from the prior art. Applicant has canceled the remaining claims subject to his right to file continuing applications therefor.

Accordingly, the application and remaining claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added,

If any issues remain which may be resolved by telephonic communication, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the number below, if such will advance the application to allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 39,148

Attorney for Applicants

ph. (845) 359-7700

Dated: January 21, 2004

NOTARO & MICHALOS P.C. 100 Dutch Hill Road, Suite 110 Orangeburg, New York 10962-2100

Customer No. 21706